

CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A compound comprising a portion for binding to a specific target cell and a cytotoxic portion, characterised in that the cytotoxic second portion is a constitutively active caspase ~~or has the same apoptosis-inducing activity as said caspase~~, wherein the cytotoxic ~~portion is~~ portion is conjugated to a portion specific for binding to a cell, further wherein said portion for binding to a specific target cell and said cytotoxic portion are internalized upon contact with said specific target cell.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously amended) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein the portion for binding to a specific target cell recognises and selectively binds to a tumour cell antigen.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Original) A compound according to any preceding claim wherein the cytotoxic portion is at least the catalytically active portion of a constitutively active caspase.
11. (Currently amended) A compound according to any preceding claim wherein the cytotoxic portion is a constitutively active effector caspase ~~or has the same apoptosis-inducing activity as the said caspase.~~

12. (Currently amended) A compound according to any preceding claim wherein the cytotoxic portion is a constitutively active caspase-3, caspase-6 or caspase-7, ~~or has the same apoptosis inducing activity as the said caspase.~~
13. (Original) A compound according to any preceding claim wherein the cytotoxic portion is of mammalian origin.
14. (Currently amended) A compound according to any preceding claim wherein the cytotoxic portion is a constitutively active variant of a naturally occurring caspase, the variant being a constitutively active caspase with ~~a peptosis~~ apoptosis inducing activity.
15. (Original) A compound according to any preceding claim wherein the cytotoxic portion is capable of oligomerisation.
16. (Original) A compound according to any preceding claim wherein said compound is a fusion compound.
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any ~~one of Claims 1 to 16~~ preceding claim and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
22. (Currently amended) A compound according to any ~~one of Claims 1 to 16~~ preceding claim for use in medicine.
23. (Cancelled)
24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)